Message Text

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LOURENCO MARQUES 0158

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OREP (CODEL CRANE, PHILIP)

SUBJECT: CONGRESSMAN CRANE'S VISIT TO MOZAMBIQUE

REF: LUANDA 111

- 1. CONGRESSMAN CRANE'S FEBRUARY 24 TO MARCH 3 VISIT IN MOZAMBIQUE GOT RELATIVELY LITTLE PRESS COVERAGE HERE.
- 2. CRANE TOLD ME HE FOUND MOZAMBIQUE DIFFERENT FROM ANGOLA, BUT NO LESS INTERESTING. HE AND MRS. CRANE WERE ACCOMPANIED THROUGHOUT BY MICHAEL CHAPMAN, ENGLISH EDITOR OF WEEKLY "REPORT FROM PORTUGUESE AFRICA" PUBLISHED IN LUANDA, WHO ALSO DOES PUBLIC RELATIONS WORK FOR PORTUGUESE. CRANE VISITED TETE (WHICH HE CALLED "POTENTIAL PITTSBURG"), CABORA BASSA, MOATIZE COAL DEPOSITS AND MPADUE ALDEAMENTO. HE ALSO VISITED NAMPULA AND BEIRA, RECEIVED EXTENSIVE BRIEFINGS. IN LOURENCO MARQUES, HE SPENT HOUR WITH GOVERNOR GENERAL, AND TALKED WITH DR. JOANA SIMIAO AND MAXIMO DIAS, WHO HAD ASKED ME TO ARRANGE MEETING WITH HIM.
- 3. CRANE WAS QUOTED IN PRESS AS CONDEMNING FRELIMO ATTACKS ON ALDEAMENTOS AND CASUALTIES INFLICTED ON WOMEN, CHILDREN AND AGED, AND AS SAYING HE HAD NO INTEREST IN KNOWING POINT OF VIEW OF ANY MOVEMENT OR ORGANIZATION WHICH ACTS ON BASIS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OF ASSASSINATION AND KIDNAPPING OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN.

HE ALSO SAID MAJORITY OF AMERICANS IN GOOD FAITH CONDEMN PORTUGAL, BECAUSE OF LACK OF INFORMATION. ONCE THEY KNOW THE TRUTH, THEY WILL MODIFY THIS ATTITUDE. HE SAID HE WAS IMPRESSED WITH GREAT JOB PORTUGUESE ARE DOING IN IMPROVING LIVING STANDARDS OF "NATIVE POPULATIONS".

4. CONGRESSMAN CRANE TOLD ME, WHILE AWARE OF PORTUGUESE INEFFICIENCY AND OTHER FRAILTIES, HE WAS GENUINELY SURPRISED AT EXTENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT WITHIN COUNTRY, AND BY ITS POTENTIAL. HE SAID HE WOULD RECOMMEND THAT MORE OF HIS CONGRESSIONAL COLLEAGUES VISIT MOZAMBIQUE TO SEE FOR THEMSELVES. HE EXPRESSED OUTRAGE OVER FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO FRELIMO MADE BY WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES.

5. GIVEN CRANE'S FAVORABLE IMPRESSIONS AND AUSPICES UNDER WHICH HE MADE TRIP, IT SEEMS REMARKABLE THAT PORTUGUESE HAVE NOT YET TRIED TO MAKE MORE PUBLIC CAPITAL OUT OF HIS VISIT.

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